

opc Bulletin

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE OVERSEAS PRESS CLUB OF AMERICA, NEW YORK, NY • OCTOBER 2001

The Day Our World Changed:

News Professionals Work to Describe What We Felt Was Indescribable

by Al Kaff

When three jet airliners were turned into guided missile bombs, the terror imploded on all of us.

Television political commentator Barbara Olson was a passenger on American Airlines Flight 77 when she twice called her husband, U.S. Solicitor General Theodore Olson, on her cell phone and reported the plane was



Barbara Olson

hijacked. She told her husband passengers and crew had been herded into the back of the plane by hijackers armed with knives and box cutters. She asked her husband what she should tell the pilot, apparently then next to her while hijackers were in control of the cockpit. Doing something, anything, was typical of Barbara, friends and husband said. Her flight crashed into the Pentagon. Before she died, Barbara knew that minutes earlier two other hijacked airliners had smashed into the World Trade Center. Her husband told CNN's Larry King that he felt compelled, during her brief cell phone calls, to tell his wife about the Twin Tower disaster.

Minutes after the terrorist attack against the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, CBS News anchor Dan Rather told his viewers: "This is another day that no doubt will live in infamy." Describing the loss of lives and destruction, Rather, an OPC member, echoed the words President Franklin D. Roosevelt spoke to a joint session of Congress the day after Pearl Harbor was bombed. But in the enormity of the destruction and loss of lives in New York, Washington, and

Pennsylvania, Japan faded into the background. The Club canceled its panel discussion on Japan's future: irrelevant to September's news.

But Japanese correspondents focused on the tragedy. Usually concentrating on financial and U.N. news, reporters from the New York bureaus of Tokyo newspapers, wire services and broadcasters hit the street to report from the Twin Tower rubble, site of several Japanese financial

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OPC Screening:

"No Man's Land"—Bosnian War Film

A Bosnian and a Serb are soldiers stranded in "No Man's Land"—a trench between enemy lines during the Bosnian war. They have no one to trust and no way to escape without getting shot. A fellow soldier wakes up to find he is lying on top of a "bouncing betty" mine that will be triggered if he moves. The absurdity of their situation would be comical if it didn't have such dire consequences. With the men stuck in a bizarre predicament, a UN commander and a TV journalist try to help, turning the story into an international incident.

With the feel of an Ionesco play the protagonists are caught between war and peace, humor and hate, capture and surrender, life and death. The director, Danis Tanovic grew up in Sarajevo and spent two years in the Bosnian Army filming scenes of the war.

The visual shock of disharmony, Tanovic says "is something I have reproduced through my film. On one side, a long summer day—perfect nature, strong colours—and on the other, human beings

and their black madness...I wanted this film to be full of all different kinds of contrasts and disharmonies, but I wanted the outcome to be that disharmony and hate are unnatural, that they bring no solution."

Brilliantly satiric, the film won best screenplay at the Cannes Film Festival this year; the director received a standing ovation. "No Man's Land" also opened the Sarajevo Film Festival and will screen at the Toronto Film Festival and Telluride.

Jane Ciabattari, OPC Board member and contributing editor for *Parade*, has organized a screening for OPC members and guests at the MGM Screening Room, 1350 Avenue of the Americas (55th Street entrance), Wednesday, October 17th, at 5:30pm. The 90 minute film will be preceded by a cocktail reception with the director, Danis Tanovic, present. This is a unique opportunity and seating is limited so please call the OPC office (212-626-9220) for reservations.

Inside...

Overseas News Coverage and the New War

What happens when news organizations cut back on real correspondents with seniority and with the respect of their peers? William J. Holstein answers that question in an article on Page 2.

We want to know what you think.

VIEWPOINT:

Surprise! You Need Overseas Bureaus to Cover Overseas News

by William J. Holstein

It was bitterly ironic to read in *The Wall Street Journal* a week after the terrorist attacks that CNN, CBS, ABC, and NBC were scrambling to expand their international presence and preparing to spend heavily to open bureaus. Why did the networks, in particular, cut back so severely to begin with? "Time and time again," the writers noted, "the networks have trimmed their news divisions, laying off staffers, shutting down bureaus and looking for ways to do more with less."

Of course, the networks aren't the only ones who've cut back on their international networks of bureaus. *U.S. News & World Report* has retreated to the point that it has just two foreign correspondents, one in Beijing and one in Moscow, and neither of those qualify as full-fledged bureaus. *Time* and *Newsweek* have many more correspondents abroad, but too often their copy is sidelined into their European or Asian editions and "ghettoized."

Some news organizations have done a good job maintaining their international profiles. *The New York Times* is indispensable, *The Washington Post* and *The Los Angeles Times* make serious contributions, and *The Miami Herald* covers

Latin America well. *The Wall Street Journal*, *Business Week* and the Bloomberg news service all report on business and finance across borders, and the Associated Press—now alone among American wires—still covers the world. But in general the quality and scale of what American news organizations are doing abroad has declined ever since the fall of the Soviet Union. In the absence of a threat, and with more news organizations run by financially-driven or entertainment-minded executives, the American media has been in retreat from an unspoken commitment to being the eyes and ears of this democracy.

It appears to be part of a recurring pattern: Americans retreat unto themselves and overlook important international trends. Then suddenly they are surprised. That element of surprise and absence of understanding has played a role in countless conflicts. We the media aren't exclusively to blame for that pattern, but we are least partly to blame.

No one has really hard information about just how many American correspondents are based abroad. The OPC office gets that question all the time. It's tricky to define because there are all sorts of variations on the theme: there are cor-

respondents who have been trained in the domestic operations of a news organization or at headquarters and then sent out on multiyear assignments. That's obviously expensive, and helps explain why many organizations simply "parachute" someone in from Stateside, or why they rely on local hires of either Americans already living offshore or else foreign nationals. Then there is a tier of stringers, some of whom are on retainer and some who get paid by the story. Experience levels vary considerably.

What happens when news organizations cut back on real correspondents with seniority and with the respect of their peers is that the balance of power in the newsroom shifts: no longer do correspondents call up the foreign desk and say "This is happening, and here's why it's important." Instead, editors and producers see something or hear something and call up younger and less seasoned local hires and stringers and say, "This is what the story is really about." And in the worst cases (which are increasingly common), the offshore contributors file their copy to superstars in New York or Washington who actually write the stories through the prism of those particular

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The Day Our World Changed

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institutions. Three days after the attack, Antonio Kamiya, an editor in the New York bureau of Kyodo News Service, Japan's national news agency, told the *Bulletin* that 22 Japanese were still missing in the Twin Towers. Kyodo sent five correspondents to New York from U.S. and overseas bureaus to work with its 15 New York reporters.

Annual speeches by world leaders at the U.N. were delayed indefinitely, canceling a visit to the United States by Chris Patten, the European Union's Commissioner for External Relations and Britain's last Hong Kong governor. He had been scheduled to speak at the OPC.

Security tightened across the nation. When Boots Duque, OPC office assistant, went to a post office to mail a package containing 20 copies of the September *Bulletin*, she was asked her name, where she lived, where she worked, ID and other information.

BBC and Independent Television Network (ITN) reports from London, broadcast on some U.S. networks, were up-to-the minute from the bomb sites and reported indepth reaction from Europe and the Middle East. *Le Monde*, a French daily often critical of the United States, penned its banner headline: "WE ARE ALL AMERICANS."

In Tokyo three days after the destruction, Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi spoke before the Foreign Correspondents' Club about Japan's response to the terrorist attack. He said that under Japan's anti-war constitution "it would not be possible for Japan" to take military action alongside the United States. Koizumi added that after the U.S. reaches a decision, Japan will consider what it can do.

Richard Bernstein, a *New York Times* book critic and former *Time* correspondent in China, quoted from Psalm 137: "By the rivers of Babylon, there we sat, sat and wept as we thought of Zion." NBC News anchor Tom Brokaw, an OPC member, called lower Manhattan "nuclear winter." Brian Williams of MSNBC compared the destruction to Mount Saint Helens, a Washington state volcano that erupted in death, floods, mudslides and forest fires, blanketing much of four states with volcanic ash, when it blew its top in 1980 after being dormant for 120 years.

Jim Rutenberg and Bill Carter of *The New York Times* wrote that some media critics questioned whether news channels in reporting the carnage and government reaction should have incorporated screen images of American flags and whether anchors should wear red, white and blue lapel ribbons and flags. "Critics say that such actions undermine the anchors' position as disinterested conveyors of news," they said, quoting conflicting views. John Moody, a senior vice president at Fox News: "I think that there's some patriotism on camera now, and I think inasmuch as TV news often reflects America's mood at any given moment, that is what it's doing now." John R. MacArthur, publisher of *Harper's Magazine* and an OPC board member: News networks adorning screens with flags are sending "signals to the viewers to some extent that the media are acting as an arm of the government, as opposed to an independent, objective purveyor of information, which is what we're supposed to be."

Judith Miller, a *New York Times* Middle East expert, appeared on a string of network news shows. After the bombing, her new book, "Germ: Biological Weapons and America's Secret War," written with *Times* colleagues William Broad and Stephen Engelberg, became No. 1 best seller on Amazon.com. In Boston, Northeastern University Press ordered a rush reprinting of 15,000 copies of the book "The New Jackals: Ramzi Yousef, Osama bin Laden and the Future of Terrorism," an account of terrorists behind the 1993 World Trade Center bombing written by London journalist Simon Reeve.

Near the World Trade Center, Pete Hamill and his wife Fukiko Aoki, both OPC members, were taking bagels and coffee with friends in Tweed Courthouse, discussing the courthouse "as a symbol of civilization, a museum of the history of New York," Pete wrote in his *New York Daily News* column. "We heard a boom....not a ferocious boom, but the sort too common in a city where construction jobs are a constant." Running into the street, Hamill saw "an immense

ball of orange flame" when the second jet crashed into the South Tower. "On the day of the worst single disaster in New York history, there was a feeling that the dying had only begun," he told his readers.



Pete Hamill

Normally publishing one column a week, Hamill wrote three more full-page columns through the week of sorrow, concluding on Sunday with "Evil From the Sky," an article spread over nine *Daily News* pages and ending: "On Tuesday, New York was knocked down. On Wednesday, it was groping for its mouthpiece. On Thursday, it was on one knee, picking up the count. On Friday, it got up." Pete told the *Bulletin* he wrote the article over several days, "perhaps 5,000 words, maybe more," on a computer in his apartment and one in his office, "and then I fell into bed and slept for nine hours."

In following days, Hamill continued pounding out columns that filled at least a page and one spread over two pages, a profile of Afghanistan, calling it "one of the most wretched countries on Earth.... The misery of the inhabitants is appalling.... There in Afghanistan, waiting for the bombs to fall, live some of the most miserable human beings on the planet. For them, dying might be as meaningless as living."

Located across from the World Trade Center, offices of *The Wall Street Journal* were evacuated within a few minutes after the hijacked jets exploded into the Twin Towers. The *WSJ* moved its newsroom to South Brunswick, New Jersey. But several top editors and numerous reporters were unable to find ferries to cross the Hudson River and worked from their homes. Managing Editor Paul Steiger saw the first tower collapse. "It was like being in Pompeii at the time of Vesuvius," he said. Unable to reach New Jersey, Steiger and his four deputy managing editors worked in an Upper West Side apartment where Steiger composed the next day's headline: "Terrorists Destroy World Trade Center, Hit Pentagon in Raid With Hijacked Jets." It was only the third *WSJ*

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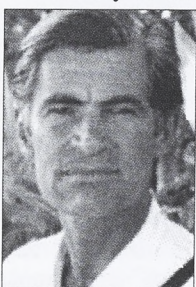
Osama Bin Laden

THE DAY OUR WORLD CHANGED

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banner headline since the paper was founded in 1889. The first was Pearl Harbor, the second the Persian Gulf War.

At mid-week *Time*, *Newsweek* and *U.S. News & World Report* published special editions containing no ads. Globe-hopping Magnum photographer James Nachtwey, who has won five OPC awards, was in New York City when the Twin Towers imploded, and his pictures dominated *Time*'s extra. In four days, David Remnick, editor of *The New Yorker*, revised the magazine's story list for its next issue that was devoted almost exclusively to the World Trade Center bombing. A picture of the Twin Towers before they were destroyed filled the cover, and for one of the first times in *The New Yorker*'s history no cartoons were published. The back page contained a poem by Polish poet Adam Zagajewski: "Try to Praise the Mutilated World."



James Nachtwey

The terrorist attack sparked a memory for OPC member Linda Goetz Holmes. In the early 1980s, her son attended the Florida flight school that may have unwittingly trained suicide pilots. "Twenty years ago my son was at that school, and he told me there were trainees there from the Middle East who spoke openly against the United States and even scrawled anti-U.S. oaths on school property," Linda told the *Bulletin*.

Steve Harrigan, a CNN correspondent in Moscow, was 50 miles from Kabul, traveling with rebels who oppose the Afghan government. When he went on the air six days after the disaster, his speech began to slur and then he fainted, falling backwards. He was suffering from an extreme case of food poisoning.

The New York Times postponed a series of events scheduled to mark the newspaper's 150th anniversary. *The Times* published its first issue on Sept. 18, 1851. But there was no big news that day. A front page article reported, "In England, political affairs are quiet," and the paper carried reports of two fires in New York, three steamers that had just docked, an ice-cart accident and a possible poisoning of a woman by her estranged husband.

Soon after the first plane struck the

World Trade Center, Don Hewitt, executive producer of CBS News "60 Minutes," telephoned all broadcast and cable news networks to urge them to put aside their relentless competition and make their footage available to all. They all said they would. But five days after the attack, CNN arranged for a camera operator to ride with a Coast Guard helicopter. CNN thus obtained the first aerial footage of the Twin Towers wreckage, so awesome that CNN broadcast its video immediately. MSNBC and other networks immediately protested the exclusive arrangement, and the Coast Guard told CNN to release its tape to all news organizations.

Christian Martin, an NBC "Dateline" producer, was in Brooklyn getting ready to vote in the primary election, later canceled, when he heard about the explosion. He rushed to the scene, offered a tourist \$500 for his video camera and got exclusive footage when the first tower collapsed.

Two days after the attack, the *Financial Times* published a letter from OPC member Wes Pedersen, Chevy Chase, Maryland: "Osama bin Laden's videotaped boast of attacks to come on U.S. targets, coupled with his record of assaults on the USS Cole and on U.S. embassies in Africa, should have set off alarms throughout Washington. Unfortunately, those signals seem to have been assessed as mere puffery from a wolf too far away to pose an immediate threat."

Abe Rosenthal, former executive editor of *The New York Times*, saw his share of international crises during his years as a *Times* correspondent in Asia and Europe, winning an OPC award and several citations. Three days after the Twin Towers collapsed, Rosenthal pulled no punches. He wrote in his New York



Abe Rosenthal

Daily News column: "We should send an ultimatum tomorrow...to the governments of Afghanistan, Iraq, Iran, Libya, Syria, Sudan and any other government devoted to the elimination of the U.S." Rosenthal continued, saying Washington should demand: Turn over all documents "about weapons of mass destruction in their countries" and "the names of all officials of terrorist organizations created or operating in the country." Residents of the

countries would be urged to flee major cities "because they would be bombed to the ground beginning the fourth day. Officials who disobeyed any part of the order would receive lifetime sentences when captured. All trade to or from the country would end."

President George W. Bush and others throughout the nation criticized the Rev. Jerry Falwell for asserting on television two days after the attack that an angry God allowed the terrorists to succeed because of the sins of Americans: "The pagans and the abortionists and the feminists and the gays and the lesbians...the ACLU, People for the American Way, all of them who have tried to secularize America, I point the finger in their face and say, 'You helped this happen.'" Falwell made his remarks on the Rev. Pat Robertson's TV program "The 700 Club," and Robertson twice agreed with Falwell. The next day, Falwell drew back with a statement: "Despite the impression some may have from news reports today, I hold no one other than the terrorists and the people and nations who have enabled and harbored them responsible for Tuesday's attacks on this nation." A week later Falwell issued a statement: "I apologize that, during a week when everyone appropriately dropped all labels and no one was seen as liberal or conservative, Democrat or Republican, religious or secular, I singled out for blame certain groups of Americans." Robertson issued a statement saying no one on his program had suggested that anyone but terrorists were responsible for the attacks.

With a touch of cynicism, Thomas L. Friedman, *The New York Times* globe-trotting foreign analyst who won a 2000 OPC Award for his book, "The Lexus and the Olive Tree: Understanding Globalization," wrote from Jerusalem one day after the Twin Towers collapsed: "I suddenly imagined a group of terrorists somewhere here in the Middle East, sipping coffee, also watching CNN and laughing hysterically: 'Hey boss, did you hear that? We just blew up Wall Street and the Pentagon and their response is no more curbside check-in.'"

In Khwaja Bahaouddin in northeastern Afghanistan, two days before terror struck the United States, two Arab men posing as journalists started to interview Ahmed Shah Massoud, 48, military commander of Afghan forces opposing the Taliban government. Minutes into the interview, a device, apparently concealed

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PEOPLE...with Al Kaff

GORDON CURRIE/BILL SHINN

AMSTERDAM: Michiel Munneke,

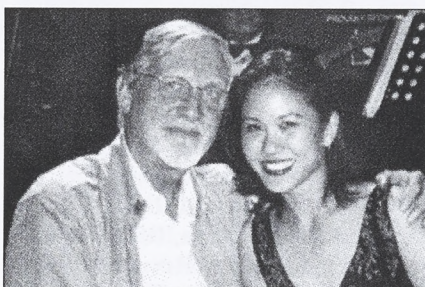
31, became managing director of World Press Photo in October, succeeding **Árpád Gerecsey**, 31, who held the post since 1998. Munneke joined World Press in 1995. He was a project manager for exhibitions and in 1998 was initiator of a new seminar program for photographers in the developing world. Under Gerecsey's leadership, educational programs became a key activity of World Press Photos, where he has been involved since 1985. He will take on new responsibilities after traveling for a few months. Founded in The Netherlands in 1955, World Press Photos supports internationally the work of professional press photographers.

BEIJING: Censors closed a small but influential Marxist journal for attacking President Jiang Zemin's plan to bring capitalists into China's Communist Party, **Erik Eckholm** of *The New York Times* reported in August. Eckholm wrote: "The closing in recent weeks of *Pursuit of Truth* was Mr. Jiang's most open move yet against hard-line Marxists, many of them elderly revolutionary veterans, who question his plan to broaden a party that by its Constitution is the 'vanguard of the working class.'" Established in 1990, *Pursuit of Truth* was edited by **Yu Quanyu**, a retired propaganda official.

HARARE: Crackdowns on the press continued this summer in at least three African nations. Zimbabwe's government arrested three editors and a reporter on the *Daily News*, the nation's only independent newspaper. Charged with printing "false news" in reporting that militants used police cars during looting of white-owned farms were **Geoff Nyarota**, editor-in-chief; **Bill Saidi**, assistant editor; **John Gabanga**, news editor; and reporter **Sam-Sam Munyavi**. A judge dismissed the charge, but new charges of publishing subversive material were filed against them the next day. OPC member **Rachel L. Swarns** of *The New York Times* reported that three foreign correspondents have been expelled from Zimbabwe this year and accreditation of all BBC correspondents suspended.

In Zambia, editor-in-chief **Fred**

M'membe and journalist **Bivan Saluseki** of the privately-owned *Post* were charged with publishing an article and editorial alleging President Frederick Chiluba had stolen \$4 million allocated for emergency food aid. Authorities closed all eight independent newspapers in Eritrea. The state-run radio said the papers ignored repeated government warnings about their political coverage.



Hugh van Es and "Miss Saigon" actress Deedee Lynn

HONG KONG: One of the scenes in the Broadway musical "Miss Saigon" acts out the widely-reprinted news photo of people climbing a ladder to a helicopter atop a Saigon building in an effort to escape when the Vietnam War ended. Earlier this year, **Hubert (Hugh) van Es**, who shot the 1975 photo, finally saw "Miss Saigon" when it played in Hong Kong. At a first night party in the Peninsula Hotel, Cameron Mackintosh, the musical's producer, told van Es that setting up the helicopter scene for shows world-wide had cost him a fortune, and he wished the photo had never been taken. **Robin Lynam** of *The Asian Wall Street Journal* said van Es believed the producer was joking.

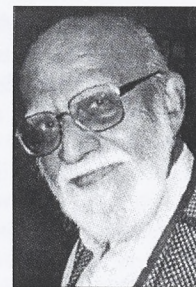
Although the photo has been reprinted many times, including a *Time* magazine cover shot, van Es earned only \$100 for the picture, a bonus paid him by UPI. "I wish I had the right to the photograph,



Saigon evacuation helicopter

which I don't have," van Es, now a Hong Kong-based freelance photographer, told *The Asian WSJ*. "I think I probably could have retired."

Vernon Ram, a longtime journalist in Hong Kong, lives on Lamma, one of the territory's outlying islands. In August, he traveled into central Hong Kong to pick up accumulated mail in his box at the Foreign Correspondents' Club, including a copy of the May *OPC Bulletin* that reported his trip to Mt. Kailas in Tibet to celebrate his 75th birthday. Vernon thanked the "People" columnist but wrote: "Just one unfortunate typo, though: the ascent to Kailas was the *crowning* moment, not *crowning* moment, of a lifetime's dream and ambition." Correct, Vernon; the *Bulletin* writer dropped the "n." Ram also asked a question about filling out the OPC's membership application form. Each month, Club Executive Director **Sonya Fry** sends copies of the *Bulletin* to non-members who are mentioned in the *Bulletin* and an invitation to join the Club.



Vernon Ram

HOUSTON: **Yu (Fish) Wei**, 82, a Nationalist Chinese spokesman who worked with a generation of foreign correspondents in East Asia, and his wife, **Loretta**, spent August and September in the United States, visiting their children and friends and attending World War II reunions. A jolly and popular fellow, Yu briefed correspondents in Taipei during the 1955 evacuation of Nationalist troops from the Tachen Islands, the 1958 Quemoy bombardment and later worked in his nation's embassies in Manila and Tokyo. During World War II, Yu was a fighter pilot in China after training at a U.S. Air Corps base in Arizona.

ITHACA, New York: After Pulitzer Prize photographer **Max Desfor** found a collection of *OPC Bulletins* published in the 1950s (September *Bulletin*), OPC member **Dan Morris** produced a pair of chopsticks engraved "Overseas Press Club" and "China Night." Dan reports the chopsticks were given out during an OPC function when the Club was located temporarily in New York City's Rocke-

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PEOPLE

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feller Center. Meanwhile, Morris is teaching this semester in Cornell University's American Indian Program.

KAMAKURA, Japan: John Roderick, a longtime AP correspondent in Asia before retiring in 1985, spent this summer lecturing at the Chinese Student Association at Oxford and Cambridge Universities and at the Far Eastern Institute in Moscow. Roderick, a veteran China watcher who covered Communist leaders in Yenan during China's 1940s revolution, was president of the Foreign Correspondents' Club of Japan, 1965-1966, and first editor of its monthly publication, *No. 1 Shimibun*. Roderick lives in a Japanese farmhouse that he bought for a few hundred yen and spent thousands of yen remodeling and modernizing.

LONDON: Laura King, an AP correspondent in London, has been appointed one of the wire service's special correspondents. King joined AP in Montpelier, Vermont, in 1980 and worked in New York and Washington until 1993, when she transferred to Tokyo as a correspondent and later Asia news editor. After attending Harvard University as a 1997 Nieman Fellow, she was posted to Jerusalem with assignments in the Middle East, Europe and Africa.



Laura King

Also appointed AP special correspondents were David Espo, Daniel Q. Haney and Helen O'Neill. Other current special correspondents are OPC member Mort Rosenblum, Linda Deutsch and Charles Hanley. Two current OPC members held that designation in the past: Hugh Mulligan and Peter Arnett.

AP has established a fund in memory of AP Television News producer Kerem Lawton, 30, and dedicated to his daughter Tara, who was born to Lawton's wife, Elida Ramadani, June 25, three months after he was killed by mortar fire along the Kosovo-Mace-



Kerem Lawton

donian border (September *Bulletin*). A native of Kosovo, Elida also is an AP TV News producer. Checks made out to The Kerem Lawton Foundation may be sent to Ian Ritchie, APTN, The Interchange, Oval Road, Camden Lock, London NW 1 7DZ.

In a eulogy at Lawton's funeral in London, OPC member Dennis Redmont, AP Rome bureau chief, said: "I do not exaggerate in saying that he was everyone's golden boy. Kerem had a lightness in a profession where many people are heavy hitters. Everyone wanted Kerem as his brother, his boyfriend and his son." Lawton was buried with a sonogram photo of his unborn daughter folded in his pocket over his heart.

AP foreign correspondents on the move: Myron Belkind from London to Tokyo; Bryan Brumley, London to Portland, Oregon; Bill Kole, Hartford, Connecticut, to Vienna; Barry Renfrew, Sydney to London; Hrvoje Hranjski, Nairobi to Cairo; Laura E. Knickmeyer, Rome to Abidjan, Ivory Coast; Jerome Socolovsky, Amsterdam to Madrid; and Nicole V. Winfield, New York to Rome.

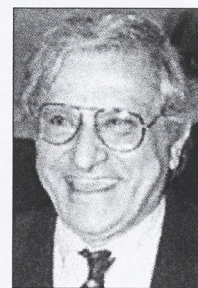
The London Press Club this year honored Lord (Bill) Deedes with a Lifetime Achievement Award for his 70th year as a journalist. The silver platter was presented by Prime Minister Tony Blair during the Club's annual awards lunch. Bill Deedes started on London's *Morning Post* in 1931. He covered the Ethiopian War and is said to be the model for a correspondent in Evelyn Waugh's novel "Scoop." Deedes later moved to the *Daily Telegraph*, where he was editor from 1974-1984.



Lord Deedes received a Lifetime Achievement Award from Prime Minister Tony Blair.

MORGANTOWN, West Virginia: George Esper, an AP Saigon bureau chief during the Vietnam War and later a national writer for the wire service,

has received the President's Award for Lifetime Achievement from the Press Club of Western Pennsylvania. Club President Rod Doss said the award honors Esper for his more than 40 years as a journalist. George now is a journalism professor at West Virginia University.



George Esper

NEW YORK: OPC member Andrew Rosenthal, *The New York Times* foreign editor, was appointed an assistant managing editor of the newspaper in September. Roger Cohen, also an OPC member, was named acting foreign editor. Their promotions were announced in the Sept. 11 issue of *The Times*, the same day terrorists struck New York City and Washington. Cohen, 46, returned to New



York this summer from Berlin, where he was *The Times* bureau chief, to become Rosenthal's deputy (June *Bulletin*). Over the years, Cohen was based in London, Brussels, Rome, Rio de Janeiro, Paris and Zagreb with Reuters, *The Wall Street Journal* and *The Times*. Rosenthal, 45, joined *The Times* in 1987 from AP, where he had been a Denver correspondent, foreign desk editor and Moscow bureau chief. He was a *Times* Washington correspondent and editor until becoming foreign editor in 1997. Rosenthal was born in New Delhi when his father A. M. (Abe) Rosenthal was *Times* bureau chief in India, later the paper's executive editor and now a columnist for the *New York Daily News*.

Through three decades, Bill Holstein's byline graced UPI dispatches from Hong Kong and Beijing, and articles in *Business Week*, *U.S. News & World Report* and *Business 2.0* while taking time to write "The Japanese Power Game: What It Means for America" [New York: Scribner's, 1990]. In August, Holstein, president of the OPC Foundation and a past OPC president, popped up in the Sunday business section of *The New York Times*. After AOL Time Warner purchased *Business 2.0* this sum-

mer and cut its staff, including Holstein (July/August *Bulletin*), *The Times* recruited Bill to write its monthly "Book Value" column in which he reviews new business books. In his first column, Holstein wrote that **John Steele Gordon's** "The Business of America" [Walker & Company] "strongly suggests that after the current stock market malaise passes, there will be growth, innovation and continued gains in productivity."

◆ OPC member **Virginia White** now is teaching a class on "Conversation: Cross-Cultural Challenges" at New York's International Center. The Center provides immigrants, refugees, students and other foreign-born people with English-language training and programs in American culture. Years ago with her husband, **Frank L. White**, an AP correspondent in Asia, Virginia lived in Japan, where she wrote for *Pacific Stars & Stripes*, and later in Manila during the Korean War. She recently returned to New York after eight years in Hungary with the Peace Corps as a high school English-language teacher and nearly a year in England. She is the author of "Over the Hill in Hungary" (August 1999 *Bulletin*).

Through one of Virginia's Budapest friends, this year's OPC Awards Dinner was reported in *The New Serbian People*, a Serbian-language newspaper published in Budapest for that city's Serbian community. The article about the OPC dinner was written by **Dobrila Borojevic**, who was in New York in April, when Virginia invited her to the Awards Dinner. To illustrate the article, the Serbian newspaper published their picture seated with **Sunday Dare** of Nigeria, now a Nieman Fellow at Harvard University, and OPC member **Rachael Bail**, Voice of America, Washington.

In a letter to "People," Virginia reported that at the Awards Dinner she ran into OPC member **John Rich**, whom she knew in Tokyo during the late 1940s. "After more than 50 years, it was very

nice that we instantly related as if we had parted only last week," White wrote.

◆ In *The New York Times Book Review* this summer, **Judith Shulevitz** commented on "Harry and Tina Come to America," a book about **Tina Brown**, editor-in-chief of *Talk*, and OPC member **Harry Evans**, former editor of London's *Sunday Times* and now editor at Random House. Shulevitz wrote that **Judy Bachrach**, the book's author, has "got to snipe at Brown for everything from not being pretty or fashionable enough to minor infractions of the often overwrought American conflict-of-interest rules." As to Evans, his "genuine charm and love of journalism wilt on Bachrach's pages."

In a letter published in *The Times*, OPC member **Alfred Balk** responded: "Both the book and the essay lack perspective on the Murdochization of media since Evans's London triumphs; his pioneering *Condé Nast Traveler's* muckraking in a travel magazine, and its presentation of literary contributors in a field that sorely lacked them; and shakeups that aided both *U.S. News & World Report* and Random House at the time." Balk, who lives in Huntley, Illinois, is the retired founding editor of *World Press Review*.

◆ International media executive **Michael Bloomberg**, founder of Bloomberg News and now a candidate for mayor of New York City, has pledged \$1.5 million to establish the Bloomberg Chair in Journalism at Columbia University's Graduate School of Journalism. "Mike Bloomberg did not attend Columbia, but he is like family," journalism Dean **Tom Goldstein** said. "His brother-in-law, **Ken Tiven**, was my classmate." Tiven is a CNN executive. Goldstein said a search for a prominent journalist to fill the Bloomberg Chair will start when the funding is in place.

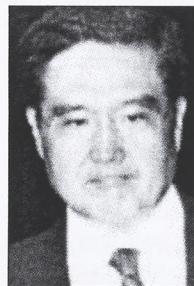
◆ Former foreign correspondent **Isabelle Reckeweg Clary** joined *Securities Industry News* this spring as a reporter after working for globalnet financial.com in New York (January *Bulletin*). Her trilingual children are following in her path. With a master's degree from the London School of Economics, daughter **Marianne** (French, English, German) is a reporter for *The Economist* in London. Son **Alexander** (English, French, Spanish) started at

Hunter College this summer with plans to major in economics. Isabelle was a UPI correspondent in Jakarta, Boston, Washington and New York, and then with Reuters in New York and her native Paris.

◆ Wedding bells: **Lisa Lauren Frankenberg**, 33, an owner and president and publisher of *The Prague Post*, an English-language newspaper in the Czech Republic, and **Jerome Jay Leshne**, 43, were married Sept. 8 by a rabbi at the Harvard Club in New York. Until March, Frankenberg was an executive at Wall Street Journal Online, and Leshne until July was vice president of investor relations for Dow Jones & Company.

British journalist **Mark Orchard**, 30, a senior TV and radio producer in BBC's Washington bureau, and **Anne Elise Kornblut**, 28, White House correspondent for *The Boston Globe*, were married Sept. 2 by an Episcopal priest at Ashby Inn, in Paris, Virginia, a town some 100 miles west of the District of Columbia.

SAO PAULO: A play written by **Sol Biderman**, *Time's* Brazil correspondent, is scheduled to open in New York City next year. The play, "When Elvis Met Che in Denver," has been performed in Denver, Hollywood and London.



Bang Sang Hoon



Kim Byung Kwan

SEOUL: Owners of three South Korean newspapers were arrested in August on tax evasion and embezzlement charges. But OPC member **Don Kirk** of *The New York Times* reported: "The newspapers say the government of President Kim Dae Jung arrested the executives as part of a campaign to silence criticism of his efforts at reconciliation with North Korea and economic reforms at a time when his popularity ratings have been in steep decline." Arrested were owners of two of South Korea's largest newspapers, **Bang Sang Hoon** of *Chosun Ilbo*, and **Kim Byung Kwan** of

(Continued on Page 8)



(L-R) **Sunday Dare**, **Dobrila Borojevic**, **Virginia White** and **Rachael Bail**.

PEOPLE

(Continued from Page 7)

Dong-A Ilbo; and **Cho Hee Joon**, principal owner of the smaller newspaper, **Kookmin Ilbo**. Kirk wrote: "The large newspapers have the total support of the opposition Grand National Party, a powerful conservative grouping that has repeatedly accused the government of engaging in a 'witch hunt' to smother criticism." Earlier, 23 national news organizations including **Chosun Ilbo**, **Joong-Ang Ilbo** and **Dong-A Ilbo** were fined a total of \$388 million on tax evasion charges (July/August *Bulletin*).

SYDNEY: Contrary to a popular view of Aussie correspondents, **Jürgen Corleis**, president of the Foreign Correspondents' Association of Australia and South Pacific, wrote in the August *Correspondent*, the Association's newsletter: "We are not a social club.... Our members don't just want to have a beer together." To succeed professionally, the Association needs government support and commercial sponsors, contended Corleis, correspondent for the Springer Group, who wrote: "We appreciate the government's plan to reestablish the IMC [International Media Centre].... We are asking for the same facilities that our colleagues in the established democracies all over the world have enjoyed for decades: International Press Centres, funded by the Government, but fully independent of the politics of the day." Temporary closing of the Sydney IPC this year "made many things much harder for us over the past six months," Corleis said. The Association also seeks business sponsors to help fund its events.

In addition to Corleis, Association officers elected this summer were **Geoffrey Lee Martin**, vice president; **Mark Chipperfield**, secretary; **Agneta Didrikson**, treasurer; and board members **Stuart Adamson**, **Sumegha Agarwal**, **Vassili Romantsov** and **Jackie Woods**. **Ann Oakford** continues as executive secretary.

Meanwhile, **Geoffrey Lee Martin** of London's *Daily Telegraph* became editor of *The Correspondent* this summer. He succeeded **Joëlle Andréoli-Dietrich** of *Le Figaro* when she returned to France.

TBILISI, Georgia: Norman Schorr and John Martin of the OPC Freedom of the Press Committee praised Georgia President Eduard Shevardnadze

for his "decision to order a prompt investigation of the murder of **Georgi Sanaia**, the news presenter at the independent Rustavi-2 national television station." Sanaia, 26, was found dead in his apartment July 26, shot once in the back of his head (September *Bulletin*). But in an August letter to Shevardnadze, Schorr and Martin wrote: "What troubles us, however, is the atmosphere that permits assassinations of journalists in your country." They noted that **Antonio Russo** was murdered and his body left outside Tbilisi last year. "His concerns about the war in Chechnya and his affiliation through a radio station with an Italian political party, raise questions about the right of free speech and association in Georgia," Schorr and Martin wrote.

TOKYO: For his years on Club committees and as a former Club vice president, the Foreign Correspondents' Club of Japan (FCCJ) made **Teiji (Ted) Shimizu**, 67, an honorary life member this summer. Ted joined United Press as a messenger shortly after World War II, rose to Tokyo news editor and then became an assistant news editor at Kyodo, Japan's national news service. The late **Ernie Hoberecht**, an OPC member and vice president of UPI's Asia Division, put Shimizu through senior year at the high school in Ernie's hometown, Watonga, Oklahoma, and four years at the University of Oklahoma.

For issues related to Japanese Prime Minister Jinichiro Koizumi's controversial visit this summer to Tokyo's Yasukuni Shrine that honors Japan's war dead, **Ko Shioya**, New York bureau chief of Bungei Shunju Ltd., Tokyo book and magazine publisher, interviewed American correspondents who once reported from Japan on what direction the new Japanese prime minister may lead his nation. Quoted in the Aug. 30 *Weekly Bungei Shunju*, circulation 650,000, were **Joe Fromm**, retired from *U.S. News & World Report*; **Frank Gibney**, who formerly reported for *Time-Life*; and **Al Kaff**, ex-UPI. Meanwhile, after three years in New York, Ko is scheduled to return to Tokyo in December to move into a higher position at Bungei Shunju Ltd. Before joining the publisher, Ko was an AP correspondent in Tokyo and later a *Reader's Digest* editor in Japan.

In 1989, **Francoise Kadri** became a contract writer for Agence France-Presse

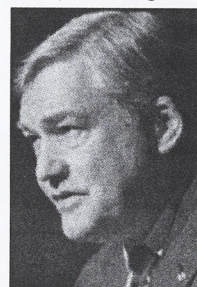
in her native France. She also spent four months on Reuters' Paris economic desk but, seeing few prospects at Reuters for a non-native English speaker, returned to AFP in 1991. After working in the Strasbourg, Bonn and Milan bureaus, she was transferred to Tokyo and now is a new member of the FCCJ



Francoise Kadri

Other new members: **Ines Karscholdgen**, Bloomberg TV; **Antonio Quagliari** and **Raffaella Scaglietta**, both freelancers for Italian media; **Nihon Keizai Shimbun** correspondents **Naoaki Okabe**, formerly based in Brussels and New York, and **Akira Kojima**, who earlier reported from Hong Kong, Singapore and Kuala Lumpur; and **Kosuke (Jerry) Matsumura**, who worked more than 30 years for the British Embassy in Tokyo and now writes for Japanese magazine publisher HUGO Publications.

TORONTO: **Conrad Black**, who owns newspapers in the United States, England and Israel, this summer sold his remaining interest in *The National Post*, his last newspaper in Canada. Black founded the conservative paper three years ago. His remaining 50 percent stake in *The Post* was sold to Winnipeg-based CanWest Global Communications that last year bought its first share in *The Post* and Black's other Canadian newspapers for \$2.1 billion. Black's Hollinger Group continues to own the *Chicago Sun-Times*; several smaller newspapers in the Chicago area; Britain's Telegraph Group, publishers of the *Daily Telegraph* and the *Sunday Telegraph*; and *The Jerusalem Post*. **Bernard Simon** of *The New York Times* reported that Black "recently renounced his Canadian citizenship after the Liberal government in Ottawa blocked him from accepting a British peerage, which would have made him Lord Black."



Conrad Black

WASHINGTON: OPC member **Rachael Bail** accompanied a National Press Club group to Vietnam in March. In Ho Chi Minh City, they stayed in the

Rex Hotel, where U.S. officers were billeted during the Vietnam War, and they traveled to old battlefields including the Mekong Delta and the Cu Chi tunnels, where Viet Cong troops hid during the day and came out at night to fight and tend rice fields. The trip inspired Rachael to write two plays: the two-act "Return to Vietnam" about the surprises a U.S. pilot receives when he returns to Vietnam 25 years after the war, and the 10-minute "Conversation in Vietnam," a discussion between a Vietnamese man and an American woman. The plays were performed in the National Press Club in September. **Gordon Smith**, also an OPC member and vice chairman of the NPC's Arts and Entertainment Committee, moderated the program.



Rachael Bail

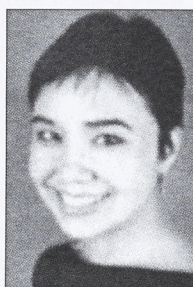
Children's Express was going international until it collapsed this summer. A news service with reporters ages 8 to 18, Children's Express opened a bureau in Tokyo in January and planned bureaus in Hong Kong and South Africa. But with its operations \$2.4 million in debt, the board of trustees voted June 30 to close Children's Express. At its demise, Children's Express operated bureaus in New York, Washington, Marquette, Michigan, and Tokyo. At the 1976 Democratic National Convention a 13-year-old Children's Express reporter scooped national media by reporting Jimmy Carter had selected Walter Mondale as his running mate. The children's reporting won an Emmy and a Peabody Award.

Children's Express dispatches moved on UPI wires in the 1970s. "It was a good project," **Ron Cohen**, UPI's former Washington news editor and now executive editor of Gannett News Service, told "People." "It interested kids in journalism, and even if they didn't go into news work they learned to read newspapers."

Ed Jones Jr., vice chairman of Children's Express, told *The New York Times*: "We learned in March that there was a potential shortfall, and authorized management to lay people off," **Robert Clappitt**, a former Wall Street lawyer, founded Children's Express in 1975 to train young people to become journalists. He died in 1996. **Nicole Harrow**, 16, a

four-year veteran of Children's Express in its New York bureau, told *The Times*: "I remember this first story I did, interviewing the A.S.P.C.A. about abuse of animals." In recent years, Children's Express survived largely through foundation grants, including \$3.9 million from the W. K. Kellogg Foundation. Children's Express United Kingdom is an independent offshoot, unaffected by the collapse of the U.S.-based organization, *The Times* reported.

Several winners of Pew Fellowships in International Journalism have found employment as foreign correspondents after concluding the four-month Pew program, reports OPC member **John Schidlovsky**, the program's director. Awarded annually for the past three years to working U.S. journalists, Pew Fellowships provide international studies at Johns Hopkins University followed by a five-week overseas assignment. Journalists who moved from Stateside jobs to foreign correspondence after completing the Pew program include **Lisa Cullen**, *Time* reporter in Tokyo; **Daniel Lovering**, Agence France-Presse correspondent in Bangkok; **David Aquila Lawrence**, Latin America reporter for "The World," produced by BBC World Service, Public Radio International and WGBH of Boston; **Jason Maloney**, freelance cameraman and producer based in Singapore; **Rena Singer**, reporting from southern Africa for *USA Today*, *Christian Science Monitor* and *U.S. News & World Report*; **Kristan Hutchison**, an editor and reporter for *The Antarctic Sun*, published at McMurdo base in Antarctica; and **Betsy Hiel**, who covers the Middle East



Lisa Cullen



Kristan Hutchinson at the "Penguin Ranch."

for several U.S. news organizations.

OPC member **Edie Lederer**, AP's U.N. bureau chief who reported from the Vietnam War, was a panelist on a Newseum program, "War Reporting," earlier this year. Other panelists were **Angus MacLean Thuermer**, a former AP correspondent in Berlin who covered World War II; **Morley Safer**, CBS News and a Vietnam War reporter; and **James Webb**, a Vietnam War veteran, former U.S. Secretary of the Navy, former assistant Secretary of Defense, and author of military and war novels including "The Emperor's General," "Fields of Fire" and his latest, "Lost Soldiers."

IN MEMORY

Bryce Miller, 71, a UPI Saigon bureau manager during the Vietnam War who later helped organize one of the OPC's biggest events, died Sept. 17 in his Stamford, Connecticut, home, stricken by an abdominal aneurysm. Bryce's wife **Jane**, a real estate agent, returned home that afternoon and found her husband dead at the bottom of a flight of stairs. Saigon bureau chief from 1965-1968, Miller spent 14 years with UPI, working also in the Little Rock, Baton Rouge, New Orleans, Dallas and New York City bureaus. After leaving the wire service, he was communications director for Pan American World Airways, news services director for International Telephone and Telegraph, and co-owner and operations director of Magna Tex International, an Internet advisory service. In 1998, he founded *ParadigmTSA*, a news feature syndicate that he continued to run as president and general manager until his death.

Miller, former OPC President **H. L. Stevenson**, who died in 1995, and **Al Kaff** organized the OPC's 1986 reunion dinner of Vietnam war correspondents held in New York City's Seventh Regiment Armory. Attended by about 250 people, the reunion was the largest gathering of the Indochina press corps since it faded into history in 1975. In Saigon, Miller founded the Vietnam Correspondents Association.

Bryce was born in Independence, Missouri, Harry S. Truman's hometown. One day when he was a schoolboy and working part-time at the local post office, Miller delivered a package to the Truman residence, where the President then was visiting. Bryce knocked, Truman opened

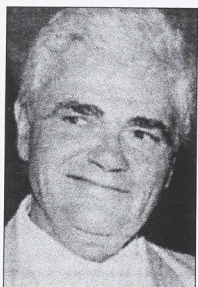
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PEOPLE

(Continued from Page 9)

the door and told the young boy he knew his father. For several summers, Miller mowed Truman's lawn.

◆
Peter Maas was a journalist in Europe before he became a best-selling author of books on organized crime in the



Peter Maas

United States. After two years in the U.S. Navy, 1949-1951, Maas was a reporter for *The New York Herald Tribune* in Paris until 1955, when he returned to New York to write for *Collier's* magazine. After working as an editor for *Look*, he moved to *The Saturday Evening Post*, where he started his research on informant Joseph Valachi, who disclosed Mafia secrets. Maas wrote more than a dozen novels and nonfiction books on organized crime and corruption. His sources ranged from Mafia turncoats to rogue CIA agents. Maas, 72, died Aug. 23 in a New York hospital of complications after ulcer surgery.

◆
Sterling Greene Slaphey, 84, who covered stories in the U.S. and abroad for several publications, died of Parkinson's disease Aug. 8 in an Alexandria, Virginia, hospital. Slaphey started his career with the *Atlanta Constitution* in 1945 and later reported for AP, *U.S. News*, *Los Angeles Times* and *Nation's Business*.

THE DAY OUR WORLD CHANGED

(Continued from Page 4)

in the journalists' television camera, exploded. Massoud, called by his United Front followers the Lion of the Panjshir, died of his wounds a few days later, one journalist was killed on the spot and the other was fatally shot by guards. Filing from Afghanistan, Barry Bearak of *The New York Times* quoted aging Burhanuddin Rabbani, leader of the government deposed by the Taliban, as saying the assassination was a "conspiracy involving Pakistan, the terrorist group of Osama bin Laden and the Taliban."



Ahmed Shah Massoud

From 1978 until retiring in 1989, he was a media relations specialist at Georgetown University's Center for Strategic and International Studies. He covered the death of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, coronation of Queen Elizabeth II, racial integration at the University of Mississippi, Nikita Khrushchev's travels in the U.S. and Europe, launch of the Soviet space satellite Sputnik, the Berlin Wall, conflicts in Cyprus and the Dominican Republic, 1956 Melbourne Olympics, and travels of President Kennedy and Vice President Nixon.

◆
Paul Vogle, 69, whose fluency in Vietnamese helped UPI score a beat when Saigon surrendered to Communist troops, died in his Plymouth, Michigan, home Aug. 6—13 months after he was diagnosed with a cancer that spread to his lungs. On April 30, 1975, while North Vietnamese soldiers were fighting their way into Saigon, South Vietnam President Duong Van (Big) Minh went on Radio Saigon to



Paul Vogle

announce his government's surrender. Vogle gave a running interpretation of the broadcast, and UPI correspondent **Leon Daniel** banged out a Teletype flash: "SAIGON GOVERNMENT SURRENDERS."

In his book "55 Days: The Fall of South Vietnam" [Prentice-Hall, 1977], **Alan Dawson**, UPI Saigon bureau manager when the war ended, wrote that AP was "getting an excruciatingly slow translation of Minh's speech" while Vogle was providing UPI with instantaneous interpretation. **Peter Arnett** ran AP's slower bulletin "to the [Vietnamese] Teletype operator, who took one look at the paragraph, turned pale, and began to rise from his chair to flee this American office. Arnett shoved him back in the chair and said he could leave after he finished typing the story." In a message to the Downhold (UPI alumni) Internet site, Daniel called Vogle "one of the finest UPI correspondents to serve in Vietnam....a kind, gentle and courageous man."

Vogle, Dawson, Daniel and Arnett were among a handful of American correspondents who remained in Saigon for several weeks after the Communist victory.
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VIEWPOINT

(Continued from Page 2)

capitals. The old rule of thumb from my days at United Press International, admittedly a different era, was that the writer of the story had to be within 500 miles of the action. You had to "get" the dateline.

It would be one thing if correspondents being repatriated ended up in senior positions in their news organizations. That certainly is the case at *The Wall Street Journal* and *The New York Times*. But I suspect the broader trend is that returning correspondents are sidelined—they've been away too long. They've developed a taste for the exotic. They don't "smell" right and therefore don't get elevated. They can't help manage the stringers and local hires. Their expertise is lost. Again, no solid statistics exist to confirm what the real pattern is. That's just my suspicion.

It's also very difficult to assess the quality of the foreign coverage that appears in, let's say, American newspapers. Some experts have tried counting column inches of foreign datelines and attempted to use that as the analytical thread. But that fails in one key way—it

can't measure quality. Perhaps it's impossible, but it seems there ought to be a way to differentiate between solid, compelling, and important stories and the wild goose chases that fascinate some editors and producers.

At the OPC and the OPC Foundation, we'd like to stimulate a broad debate about how news organizations cover the world. We already give awards for the best international journalism and scholarships for aspiring correspondents. We maintain linkages with press clubs around the world and have members in a couple of dozen countries. What are your ideas about what can be done? How do we convince top management that building and maintaining international networks makes solid long-term sense? (It is particularly shocking to see organizations shutting down Tokyo bureaus—it typically takes five years to re-establish a credible presence there.)

Please send us your thoughts to: The OPC, 40 West 45th St., New York, NY 10036. Fax, (212) 626-9210. E-mail, Executive Director Sonya Fry <sonya@opcofamerica.org> or contact this reporter at <bholstein2001@yahoo.com>

NEW BOOKS

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tion; and the village of Tulle, where German soldiers in 1944 rounded up the men and hung 99 of them from lamp posts, balconies and telephone poles. The book takes its title from the two-star Vichy hotel that housed the Jewish Affairs Department, whose duties included "the time-consuming, patience-wearing process of divesting all the Jews in France of their property."

• **David B. Charnay**, who in a June letter to *Bulletin* editor **Lee Townsend** signed himself "Proud OPC Member," mixes history and fiction in "Operations Lucifer: The Chase, Capture & Trial of Adolf Hitler" [Calabasas, California: Squire General]. A political thriller, Charnay's 975-page novel tells what might have happened if the body found in a Berlin bunker at the end of World War II was not that of Adolf Hitler, who instead survived and escaped. Charnay said he was inspired to write the book when he learned that a survey indicated that many high school students today know little about the Holocaust. "Their knowledge of this carnage was abysmal," he said. "Hundreds of history books have been written. Not many are reaching the post war generations."

PEOPLE

(Continued from Page 10)

ry until the government kicked them out. A former seminarian, Vogle had lived in South Vietnam for 18 years and learned Vietnamese in the U.S. Army before UPI hired him. After the war, he worked in the wire service's Hong Kong and Detroit bureaus, and he succeeded in getting his Vietnamese wife, **Kim**, who survives, and her three children out of Communist-ruled Vietnam to join him in the States. A modest man, Vogle when greeted each morning by his UPI Hong Kong boss, "Hi, Paul, how you doing?" invariably replied: "You would know better than me."

◆
Joseph. F. McBride, 84, believed to be *Stars & Stripes* longest serving staffer, died of pneumonia July 6 in San Diego, California. McBride joined the military newspaper in 1942 when he was in the U.S. Army, and after World War II remained with the paper as a civilian until retiring in 1981. He spent his *Stripes* career in Europe except 1945-1954 when he was based in its New York City bureau.



David Charnay and the Duke of Windsor

In writing the book, Charnay drew on his experiences as a reporter in New York City for 17 years with the *American*, *Daily Mirror* and *Daily News*, and then as a businessman and public relations advisor to political leaders including presidential candidates. "I covered the Nazi rally at the old Madison Square Garden on 8th Avenue and 50th Street. Twenty-five thousand rabid Nazis indoors with storm troopers as security guards and elongated torch-type flashlights used as batons. Fifty thousand protesters. Riots inside and out."

In his letter to the *Bulletin*, Charnay wrote: "I was assigned to cover the Duke and Duchess of Windsor's arrival in Bermuda when [Prime Minister Winston] Churchill pushed him out of France, appointing him Governor General of the Bahamas. Had I been fully informed of the Duke's connections with Hitler, I would have pressed him forcefully on that subject....Now in my octogenarian years I have put his role, his wife's and that of Joseph. P. Kennedy, Charles Lindbergh, the Dulles brothers' activities pre-war, Eva Perón and Juan Peron, [and] Lady Astor's Cliveden Set in my book."

• **Geraldine Brooks** first visited the village of Eyam in northern England in 1990 when she was based in London as Middle East correspondent for *The Wall Street Journal*. "Between assignments in hot, troubled places like Gaza and Baghdad, I tried to find respite in the English countryside," she writes in the afterword of her historical novel, "Year of Wonders: A Novel of the Plague" [New York: Viking]. "It was on one of those hikes—or rambles, as the English euphoniously call them—that I came upon an intriguing finger post, pointing the way to the 'Plague Village.'" There she learned that more than half the population of Eyam



Geraldine Brooks

died during the 1666 bubonic plague epidemic and that a young minister persuaded the residents to close their village, allowing no one to enter or leave, to prevent spreading the contagion further.

Brooks writes that while reporting from Bosnia and Somalia "my thoughts often returned to Eyam, and I began to realize that it was this story, above all others, I longed to tell." After moving to a rural Virginia village about the size of Eyam, "the story of the quarantine and its costs grew even more vivid to me." Brooks returned to Eyam in 1999 to research its history, and she delved into 17th Century medical texts, journals, sermons and social histories. In her novel, Brooks tells the story of that village of lead miners and shepherds through the eyes of Anna Frith, an 18-year-old widow who works as the vicar's maid. As the death toll mounts, the residents are driven to witch hunts, flagellants and superstitious rituals. Anna befriends the vicar's wife, and together they learn to use medicinal herbs and plants to aid the sick and fortify the healthy.

SOUTH AMERICA

• In her collection of essays, "Looking for History: Dispatches From Latin America" [New York: Pantheon Books], **Alma Guillermoprieto** writes that her goal is to "render visible to U.S. readers some of the more hidden and enigmatic aspects of Latin American history and conflict." She succeeds, concludes **Sarah Kerr**, *Vogue* film critic who writes about Latin America. In a *New York Times* review, Kerr comments that Guillermoprieto "is wonderfully lucid...but without the airless certainty of someone writing for an audience of think tanks or insider colleagues." The review's subhead read: "This reporter in Latin America tells us what she sees, not what somebody thinks." Guillermoprieto, who has reported for *The New Yorker* and *The New York Review of Books*, writes about Mexico's Zapatista rebels, the Pope in Cuba, Evita Perón and Che Guevara. Cubans of the same age as the Castro regime view themselves as protagonists of a grand history. While its drug cartels flourish and guerrillas fight the army and paramilitary vigilantes, Colombia calls itself Latin America's oldest democracy. Mexico's new president, Vicente Fox, conducts politics like a business, "delegating tasks, making important decisions quickly and sticking to a schedule."

New Books

ASIA

• A fortune-teller warns **Tiziano Terzani**, Southeast Asia correspondent for Germany's *Der Spiegel*, not to fly for an entire year. So he continues working while traveling only by rail, road or sea while seeking out fortune-tellers and soothsayers. He describes his year on the ground and water in "A Fortune-Teller Told Me: Earthbound Travels in the Far East" [Harmony]. Malaysia's foreign ministry demurs on his request to sail down the Straits of Malacca to Singapore, concluding that any European who avoids flying to Singapore must be a terrorist. While traveling by boat and car from Singapore to Jakarta, Terzani seeks out a magician in the Raiu islands. The man examines Terzani, searching for the evil eye, and advises him never to urinate into the sun. Terzani writes: "Reached by plane, all places become alike. Frontiers...lose their meaning and cease to exist for those who travel to and from the air-conditioned bubbles of airports."

AUSTRALIA

• Two years ago, **G. Bruce Knecht** took leave from the *Asian Wall Street Journal* to write a book on the 1998 tragedy that struck the annual 630-nautical-miles sailing race from Sydney to Hobart. A cyclone with 80-knot winds and eight-story-high waves suddenly hit the racing boats (April 1999 *Bulletin*). An avid sailor, Knecht now has published "The Proving Ground" [New York: Little, Brown], an account of the race in which six sailors were lost at sea, 55 others were plucked from the water and 12 yachts

sank or were abandoned. Only 43 of the 115 boats reached Hobart. "Sayonara," a yacht owned by Larry Ellison, billionaire founder of Oracle Corporation, arrived first in Hobart. But Ellison vowed his racing days were over, saying: "This is supposed to be fun. You're not supposed to die doing it." But Australian Prime Minister John Howard is quoted: "It's a tragedy, but there are many tens of thousands of Australians that are keen sailors and yachtsmen, and they will go on."

• The life and times of **Rupert Murdoch** are examined in "Virtual Murdoch" [Sydney: Random House, and London: Secker & Warburg] by Australian investigative reporter **Neil Chenoweth**, and "Working for Rupert" [Hodder] by **Hugh Lunn**, a former Reuters and Australian Associated Press correspondent in London and Vietnam. *The Correspondent*, newsletter of the Foreign Correspondents' Association of Australia and New Zealand, commented: "Chenoweth traces Murdoch's media and money trail from Adelaide to Sydney, Melbourne, London, New York, Hollywood and Beijing. The book is not an easy read. The financial maze of Murdoch's operations is complex. But the book is essential reporting for any international journalist, particularly because it expertly looks to Murdoch's financial, territorial and family future." Lunn, a reporter for 17 years for Murdoch's *The Australian*, writes that his proprietor would fly in without notice on "terror from the sky" visits.

EUROPE

• Yale University Press this summer published a paperback edition of "The

Age of Delirium: The Decline and Fall of the Soviet Union" by **David Satter**, Moscow correspondent for the *Financial Times*, 1976-1982, and a former special correspondent on Soviet affairs for *The Wall Street Journal*. In its news release, the publisher commented that Satter "provides a fascinating portrait of the demise of the Soviet Union through the eyes of ordinary Russian citizens: the striking miners, factory workers, collective farm workers, border crossers, KGB targets, prisoners and Ukrainian activists." *Foreign Affairs* wrote, "A vivid, graceful writer...Satter exposes the sham the regime's values had become, the drunken indifference of workers, and, in particular, the senseless, bureaucratized cruelty of the KGB."

• **Adam Nossiter**, a former *New York Times* reporter, spent part of his childhood in postwar France, where his father was a *Washington Post* correspondent. In "The Algeria Hotel: France, Memory, and the Second World War" [Boston: Houghton Mifflin], Nossiter describes how the French remember, or refuse to remember, Germany's World War II occupation. He interviews residents of Bordeaux, where he lived for six months during the 1997 trial of Maurice Papon, the aged French civil servant accused of crimes against humanity; Vichy, the mineral springs resort and seat of the French regime under Marshall Philippe Pétain during the Nazi occupation. (Continued on Page 11)



Adam Nossiter

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